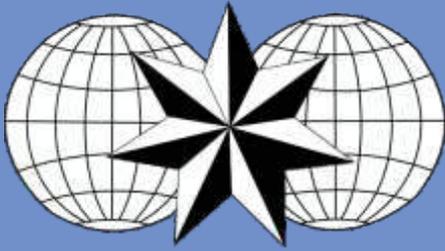


June 2017



# Newsletter

- brings Druids together



## Dear IGLD Brothers and Sisters



Kay Hagby , Grand President

Too many months have passed since our latest Newsletter, but with reason. It took some effort and time to sort things out after our good Brother Barry Wood passed away, and we had to find a new country for our next congress. It also had to be voted for among the Grand Vice Presidents.



## World Congress 2020 Malmö



Now the puzzle pieces are coming together, and I am glad to inform you all that the IGLD Congress 2020 will take place in Malmö, Sweden. We are very grateful for the positive response from the Swedish national Order that they will host this arrangement. The Congress will be held during week 32, the first week of August 2020, but more details will follow later.

In this issue of the Newsletter you will find a presentation of Malmö, more IGLD history, a report from the German IGLD

meeting in April and other news snippets.

I wish you all a nice summer (and winter in the southern hemisphere), and I am very much looking forward to seeing some of you in Copenhagen 29.9.-1.10.2017.

Fraternal greetings in U P C

Kay Hagby  
Grand President

# Malmö - Congress city 2020



*Translated and edited from an article in Svensk Druid-tidning written by Bro. Lars Grefmar/Ad Astra Lodge, Malmö*



Malmö is Druidic history. Here the Swedish Druid Order was born in 1904. And here is now our main office of the Order. The Grand Lodge Sydborgen, our five basic lodges Ad Astra (1904); Mimer (1913); Vasa (1920); Wales (1950) and Hesperus (1943), the women lodge Isolde, the women's club and the chancellery office in our own house.

Our Druid house, built in 1924, is situated between the Dringenberg house with basement vaults from the 13th century and the well-preserved Rosenvriehouse from the 16th century. We are opposite to the coin master Jörgen Kock's house from the same century, which also faces the main square with the City Hall. Everything supervised by Karl X Gustav, who conquered Skaane from the Danes in 1658. We are in Malmö's nucleus. It was along Västergatan the structure of a town with neighbourhoods, fields and streets began to grow a thousand years ago.

In the extension of Västergatan west, Malmöhus Castle dates from the 1300s. Around the oldest part of Malmö flows the canals, which are partly formed by old moats, and partly dig after the city's fortifications were dismantled in the early 1800s. Here you can have guided tours or rent floats, rowboats, canoes and water bikes.

In 1904 when the Druid Order came to town, 70 000 people lived in Malmö. A hundred years later, just before the opening of the Öresund Bridge in 2000, we were a quarter of a million. And today we have grown another 70 000!

However, in the 1970s and 80s, Malmö lost 45 000 inhabitants and was then perceived as a tired, grey and worn industrial and working city. At the same time, the shutting down process of ship building, textile industry and the limestone and cement industry began. A business crisis that lasted until the mid 90's. Then Malmö's transformation began from a crisis of industry into a modern, eco-friendly, knowledge-oriented and cultural city. Öresund Bridge, University College, City Tunnel and Malmö Arena gave jobs and faith for the future. Almost as a symbol, the Kockumskran, once the world's largest gantry crane, was replaced with Santiago Calatrava's Turning Torso (2005), a 190 meter high spiralbuilt residential building. Malmö is a small big city with short distances. A walking and cycling city. Let us, based on the Druid house, visit some of the city's new converted environments.



# Malmö - Congress city 2020



We start by walking around the corner to Vallgatan, where our "order hotel" is located. From here, visiting brothers have been able to follow the construction of Malmö Live, or "Malmhattan" for which the public has renamed it for some years. A city district with residential apartments, a commercial centre, hotel, congress centre and a new concert hall. Next to it, in the old harbour offices, now the World Maritime University, a world-leading independent UN university for education and research in global shipping.

We continue our walk a few minutes, to the west harbour, which currently employs more people than previously worked with shipbuilding. The western harbour borders a two kilometre long sandy beach with protective duvets and an even larger lawn, Ribban. Bathing and all kinds of ball and leisure activities, but also space for both championships in the field competitions and jump competitions at the highest international level.

But we turn back and go along Orkanen College, which gets university status next year. Down into the City Tunnel (2010) to go by train 6 km to Hyllie, the last station before the Öresund bridge and Kastrup airport. After 5 minutes and only a few steps, we reach Malmö Arena (2008). Around the arena, a new city in the city grows with many eco-friendly and spectacular buildings, including Emporia, 2012 Scandinavia's largest shopping mall.

However, we drop that and instead take out a rental bicycle and trample on the stadium area, Europe's largest sports area with courts and halls for football, handball, ice hockey, athletics, bowling and more.

We leave the bike in a renter and walk through Pildammsparken, one of Malmö's major central park facilities. We pass Mimer's well from 1913 and FC Rosengårds home-ground. And admires the Opera's stylish building from 1944.

We pass the Library Building, take a look to the left and enjoy the mosaic of the Crown Prince's 25-storey scraper. The facade blends so well with the blue sky. The complex replaced the regiment barracks 55



years ago, and was then the country's highest residential building. Crossing the canal between the castle park and the King's park and passing the Casino, we are just back in Västergatan where we started. Our short city tour of Malmö is at its end. There are lots of other things we could tell you or show you, but instead we welcome you to see and experience

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## In memory of Brother Barry Wood (1939-2017)

A good friend and brother, Barry Wood, passed quietly away on March 7<sup>th</sup>. For many years Barry was a prominent and important brother of AOD in UK, and for us in IGLD he was an omnipresent brother with a great interest in our international work.



In New Zealand last year his dream of once again being able to invite IGLD to hold a congress in England came true. With his usual enthusiasm he was planning for this to happen in Ashford, until his too early decease and the subsequent cancellation of these plans.

Barry Wood will be deeply missed in our midst and is being remembered in our IGLD history as a man of integrity and brotherly conduct.

Kay Hagby  
Grand President

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## SELF RESPECT.

As a Druid you should know yourself, as said by Socrates as rule number one, and to respect yourself as a condition for respecting other people. With respect we mean including respect. Respect for people for just what they are - human being, and try to understand them by listening to them. This is essential if we want to achieve piece and to really know people around you.

Self respect means to risk being honest - first of all to yourself. But honesty is a mutual process which for brothers in the Order of Druids is essential. Many small and also big conflicts, hate, irritation and misunderstandings could be avoided by respecting and listening to each other.

Avoid hard and unfriendly words – try a smile. A smile does not cost anything but make the receiver rich. It takes only a moment but will be remembered forever.

A smile gives happiness in your home, gives goodwill in business and seal friendship and brotherhood.

IGLD is an organization for thrust and friendship worldwide with brothers being there for you whenever you want.

ROE Reidar Bratli



## New Druid Lodge and IGLD Meeting in Germany



The foundation of a new lodge is one of the most important events in any national Druid Order. Since the beginning of the current century 14 local lodges have been installed in Germany, and all of their start-ups were very well attended. But the event, that happened during the last April-weekend in Bad Vilbel, a small spa-town of 32.000 inhabitants at the northern edge of Frankfurt, exceeded all of them, the number of participants surprised - but by no means overwhelmed - the organizers. Up to 170 guests were present, among them leading members and visiting brothers of the Druid Orders of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Germany. Those three days in Bad Vilbel were suitable to cultivate or to renew international friendship and to experience what it means to belong to the world-wide community of Druids.

Already Friday, April, 28<sup>th</sup>, can be regarded as a first highlight, when round about 100 participants met for a "cozy evening" in a typical guest house at the edge of Frankfurt. They were able to taste the local apple wine (if they were courageous enough) and to enjoy regional dishes. And they did!

The main event of the installation was the ritual meeting on Saturday, March, 29<sup>th</sup>, when the new

lodge named "Zu den Quellen" (Quellen means "springs", with regard to the mineral springs of the town) has been brought to life in a solemn form. The large and splendid main hall of the impressive Freemason Temple in Frankfurt was filled to the last place, when the President of the German Druid Order, brother Frank Graffenberger, opened the meeting which was attended by a total of 110 brothers. He was proud to welcome the leading IGLD officers Grand President, brother Kay Hagby, Grand Secretary, brother Geir Kaare Jordheim and Grand Treasurer brother Per-Arne Mejjren, IGLD Grand Vice Presidents from Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Germany, visiting brothers from Sweden, Denmark, Finland, England and Switzerland and last but not least officers from 6 German Grand Lodges and brothers from 31 local lodges.

Prior the actual founding act the officials of the new lodge were introduced to their offices. In many friendly greetings, they were given good wishes for their future activities. The founding members and the brothers of the Wilhelm-Meister-Loge, Frankfurt, who had only made the creation of the new lodge, also deserve thanks and recognition for their tireless efforts.

## Brothers of the new Lodge “Zu den Quellen”



Photo: Bro Udo Roos



The accompanying partners were given the chance to participate in a guided tour in Bad Vilbel during this time. 49 ladies have been introduced to the city's sights in a very nice and interesting way.

In the afternoon a donation of € 2,500 was handed over to the music school of the city in an official ceremonial act in the “Kurhaus” of Bad

Vilbel. The amount will be used for music education in the kindergarten. The lord major of the city expressed with joyous words that he is very glad to have a Druid Lodge in his city. He wished the brothers growth and success.

Another highlight was the banquet in the evening, which also took place in the “Kurhaus”. In addition to a tasty buffet it was above all the excellent music band, which contributed to the good mood among the participants. Hard-working dancers got their money's worth!

The next day, Sunday, April, 30<sup>th</sup>, was reserved for the International Grand Lodge of Druidism, for another meeting in the Freemason Temple in Frankfurt. The international ritual meeting was chaired and sovereignly carried out by the presidency of the German Druid Order. In the traditional ceremonial ritual of the IGLD, 40 new members have been introduced to our international brotherhood. In addition to 37 German brothers there was one brother each from Sweden, Finland and Switzerland.

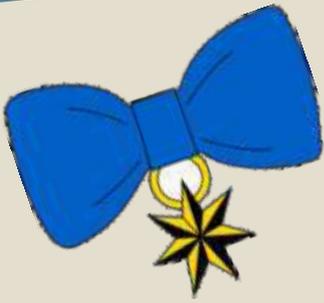
It is not often the case, that so many international officers are present on such an occasion. In his speech, the Grand President of IGLD, brother Kay Hagby was very pleased with this possibility of being able to demonstrate what the value and the advantage for each brother is to be a member of the IGLD. We have here the best example of understanding and friendship across borders.

The brethren rose from their places in honor and in commemoration of the IGLD Grand Director of Ceremonies and longtime Grand Vice President of the A.O.D. England, Brother Barry Wood, who passed away on the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 2017.

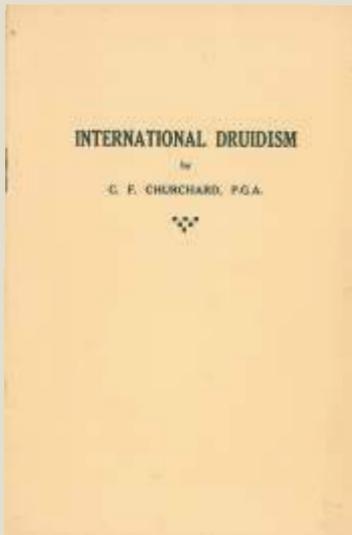
The fact that the President of the German Druid Order, brother Frank Graffenberger, in spite of his visibly restricted state of health, guided this and all other meetings in a sovereign manner demanded respect from the participants and received heartfelt applause.

By a joint meal together with the new IGLD members ended a remarkable meeting and at the same time a weekend full of events, which will be long remembered.

*Bro Dieter Hennecke*



## Part II



# INTERNATIONAL DRUIDISM

The Third Meeting of the International Grand Lodge at Altona, Germany, the 12th and 13th July, 1923.

Ten years had elapsed since the last session of the International Grand Lodge at London; years of struggle, care and misery for the German people and for the victorious countries too ..

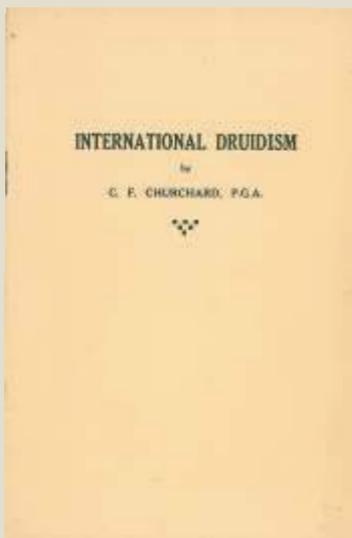
In 1919, after the end of the terrible World War, the leader of the Swedish Order of Druids tried to refasten the torn bonds of the International union. The German Lodges agreed to the resumption of the interrupted relations between the countries which were formerly united.

The Supreme Arch of the U.S.A., Bro. W. Schmidt, made at the end of 1920 the proposal immediately to begin with the reunion of the American, the Swedish and the German Orders. The next meeting of the delegates might take place in Germany. Accordingly the session of the International Grand Lodge was held at Hamburg- Altona in July, 1923. The above three mentioned countries were represented, each country by three delegates. The presidentship was [ying in the hands of Germany. The President, Bro. Hugo Wiese, emphasised in his' address that the International Union was not formed to equalise. Each country was to retain its national peculiarities; neither financial nor political ties were to be entered into. The sole purpose of our union is to bring the Druids of all the world into closer contact and by rigidly excluding all questions of a political or religious nature to cultivate the spirit of toleration. The Druids of all the world are joined on the basis of mutual help and we are united to broadcast and to strengthen the sublime principles of Druidism.

The following resolutions were passed:-

1. Each country bears its own expenses for the representatives to the International Grand Lodge.
2. Travelling Brethren, who are in possession of a valid travelling card, in which latter claims on sickness benefit and other grants must be clearly stated, may receive these payments, if necessary, in foreign countries from the respective branch of the Order, if found expedient after telegraphic enquiries have been made respecting the applicant. Payment is made against threefold receipt. The amount paid is to be refunded immediately . To be valid the travelling card must contain the visum of the Lodge, the Grand Lodge and the Imperial Grand Lodge. Each country has to choose the wording according to the rules of its own constitutional laws.





## Newsletter

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3. It shall be left to the American and to 'the Swedish Brethren to renew the former International connections; the German Order of Druids will endeavour to renew its relation to California.

On the other hand the Officers of the International Grand Lodge will endeavour to re-establish the connection with Australia and New Zealand.

4. The resolutions of the former sessions regarding the reception of members to the International Grand Lodge and the respective agreement between the German and the American Order of Druids dated 1 st October, 1907, are still valid. The representatives of the Swedish Imperial Grand Lodge decided to organise these resolutions as binding on Sweden.

5. A Committee consisting of the Brethren, Dr. Erichsen and Carl Schroeder (Germany) and Bro. Paulsen (America) was formed to study the history of the Druidic ritual. The proposals for the ritual, sign of recognition and entry sign for the International Grand Lodge were accepted after slight alterations.

6. Regarding the regalias the following resolution was passed :

As desirable as uniformity of the regalia appears to be, it must be left under the existing circumstances to the discretion of the single countries to choose the regalia according to their individual requirements and druidical ideas.

7. Bro. W. Schmidt, America, holds a referee about the problems of the Orders of Druids. He pointed out that Druidism must always have an ideal foundation, an ideal, however, which loses itself in the clouds is to be avoided. A Brother Druid must always keep in close contact with the realities of life. The main object of every Druid ought to be to strive to be a better man.

8. It was agreed that the offices of International Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were to be united. The ballot for the Officers of the International Grand Lodge had the following result :-

President: Bro. Hugo Wiese, Germany.

Vice-President: Bro. William Schmidt, America.

Grand Secretary and Treasurer: Bro. Aug. Bjork, Sweden.

3 It was resolved that the next session of the International Grand Lodge was to take place in 1928 at Malmo, Sweden. Should, however, England rejoin the International Grand Lodge, the session might be held at an earlier date, perhaps in three years.

Part 3 in next number.